

## Letter from Alexander Graham Bell to Mabel Hubbard Bell, 1885, with transcript

Alexander Graham Bell to Mabel (Hubbard) Bell. L Mansion House, Vineyard Haven, Sunday night (1885) My darling Mabel:

I have been working hard to try to join you in New York but I have only really got fairly to work and I cannot leave without sacrificing one half of the material I have come to obtain.

I have already copied more than one hundred pages of the old Record Book here but it contains more than two hundred pages. I want to go to Edgartown before returning to see the early records of that town and visit Mr. Pease a Genealogist — specially interested in the Vineyard families.

I want to complete my copy of the old Tisbury Records — for all the other early records of this town have been destroyed by fire — and this alone remains in a delapidated condition and will not remain legible very long I fear even though no accident happen — to destroy it. I want to save it by copying it for the information it contains could never be recovered should the book be lost.

How long will you remain in New York? Won't you arrange to spend the whole week there and I will join you as soon as I can.

I have been working up till 2 a. m. in hopes of leaving tomorrow — but as I glance over the 100 pages yet remaining to be copied I see information of value to me that I do not wish to lose. So I will stay for the present and I scribble this note in hopes that some good soul will mail it on the boat tomorrow before 8 o'clock for if not — it won't go till Tuesday morning. I have scarcely eaten anything but dry toast since I came here and have walked at least

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five miles a day - 2 but samples still continue bad — but I think are improving otherwise perfectly well. Much love to you and Grace. Take good care of yourself.

Alec.